Enactment of legislation for maintenance and care of senior citizens

2224. DR. VUAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal with Government to bring a legislation to provide for maintenance of dependent and senior citizens and help them live with dignity;

(b) if so, by when the Bill will be introduced;

(c) the funds Government have released during 2004-05 under various Central schemes for the maintenance of senior citizens; and

(d) the details of the suggestions in this regard given by the Parliamentary Consultative Committee attached to the Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI MATISUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. However, it is not possible to indicate time frame.

(c) Under the grant in aid scheme "Integrated Programme for Older Persons", a total amount of Rs. 15.68 crore was released to Non-Governmental Organisations for maintenance of old age homes, day care centres, mobile medicare units and non-institutional service centres.

(d) The Members have broadly supported the proposal to formulate the legislation.

Reservation in private sector

2225. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Group of Ministers set up by Government to prepare a roadmap for extending job reservation for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes/Other Backward Classes in the private sector has submitted its report;

(b) if so, whether Minority communities have also been included in the list for this purpose,

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) Government's reaction thereto particularly with respect to minority communities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Funds for Post-Matric Scholarship to students in Karnataka

2226. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have yet to release Rs. 8163.33 lakhs to Karnataka Government towards Post-Matric Scholarship to the Scheduled Caste students in Karnataka during the year 2005-06; and

(b) if so, by when the same will released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) and (b) The Government of Karnataka submited a proposal to release Central assistance of Rs. 9311.71 lakh under the Post Matric Scholarship scheme during the year 2005-06, which is based on an assessment of 103% increase on the total expenditure on this scheme in the State during last year, which is unusual. An amount of Rs. 1152.00 lakh had been released to Government of Karnataka during 2005-06, after taking into account the unspent balance of Rs. 943.33 lakhs from the previous year. Further release of Central assistant will depend upon availability of additional funds.

Financial assistance under Integrated Programme for Street Children

2227. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state: